

**Aloha Arborist Association
Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2013**

Members Present: Steve Connolly, Carol Kwan, Jamilee Kempton, Amy Nichols, Dudley Hulbert, Steve Nimz, John Perry, Dan Severino, Erin Burt- Kuhl, and Andrew Kendall.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE MAY 15TH 2013, MEETING MINUTES

President Steve Connolly called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. The May 15, 2013 meeting minutes were approved with the correction of the Pest of the Month. The Pest of the Month for May 15th 2013 Meeting, was Pink Rot of Palms. Graphiola Leaf Spot of Palms will be the Pest of the Month for July's meeting.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A) Training Workshops

i) Trees and Law - 2013

- (a) Dennis Kucinich will be the speaker coming in from California with a target date September 6th.
- (b) No venue yet. Steve Nimz is working on finding a venue.

ii) John Ball Workshop 2014

- (a) John Ball is interested in coming to Hawaii - target week of April 21st 2014
 - (i) Rose Epperson talked with Steve Connolly about having John Ball speak at workshops in California first, then head out to Hawaii
 - (ii) Oahu, Big Island and Maui workshops – possible 2-day workshop for Oahu
 - (i) Potential guest speakers to break up John Ball's speech
 - 1. Javier Quiroz. Lead Arbrosit at San Diego Zoo. Hands on safety workshop for climbing palms, especially *Washingtonia robusta*
 - a. *Washingtonia robusta* is said to be popping up on Ewa side showing invasive characteristics on Oahu
 - 2. Justin Donahue. Arborist on Oahu may be able to speak about safety for climbing Coconut Palms
 - (b) No Venue set for Oahu. Depends upon when McCoy Pavilion will be available again after the construction project
 - (c) WCISA might possibly get a grant to help fund the costs and keep the registration fees reasonable
 - (d) There is a possibility to obtain insurance for hands-on workshops through LICH if we give enough notice

iii) Request for Hands-On Workshops

- (a) No new info regarding Don Coffey and John Maddich for hands-on workshop
- (b) AAA could put on a hands-on workshop with local speakers like we've done in the past
 - (i) Mock Tree Climbing Competition (TCC) where we set up a course, demonstrate how each event is done, score participants, and then run the course again
 - (ii) SRT Technique/advanced climbing techniques hands-on workshop
 - (iii) Hands-on knot tying course
 - (iv) Potential Venues - Moanalua Gardens, Urban Garden Center or Lyon Arboretum
 - (v) Local Hands-On Workshops could raise money for HTCC

iv) 2013 LICH Conference

- (a) October 10, 2013 Neal Blaisdell Exhibition Hall
- (b) Native Plant Theme
- (c) Arborist Track
- (d) Free Social - the night of Conference

B) Research Committee

- i) John Montoya is no longer on DOT grant
- ii) Waiting for an update

C) New Meeting Venue

- i) The July 17th Meeting is scheduled at the Wahoo's 940 Auahi St.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A) Pest of the Month – Acacia Psyllid *Psylla uncatoides*

- i) Hosts: *Acacia koa*, *Acacia koaia*
- ii) Distribution: Originates in southeast Australia. Also found in New Zealand, California, and Hawaii.
- iii) Damage: Feeds primarily on the young terminal growth. Heavy infestations can severely defoliate and kill twigs and branches.
- iv) Control: A biological control, *Harmonia conformis*, was successfully established in Hawaii in the 1970s. It typically maintains acacia psyllid populations below damaging levels.
- v) Other: This pest may be encountered more often since the introduction of its more susceptible host, *Acacia koaia*, into landscapes.

- B) 2014 Hawaii Tree Climbing Competition
 - i) HTCC aiming for January or February 2014 at Moanalua Gardens
 - (a) Petzl Sponsorship?
 - ii) Moanalua Gardens “Work day” prior to HTCC
 - (a) No date has been set. Aiming for October 2013
 - (b) “Work day” on a Saturday. Sunday hold a workshop or training event.
- C) Arborist and Certified Tree Worker Exams
 - i) October 12th 2013

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A) Congratulations to Jamilee Kempton, Winner of the women’s division of WC TCC. Good luck in Toronto at ITCC, August 3-4, 2013!
- B) The ISA Conference is scheduled for August 3-7, 2013, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- C) KLIC is offering CTW Prep Classes through Kauai Community College in August 2013, to be followed by an exam in early September. For more information, visit <http://info.kauaicc.hawaii.edu/training>.
- D) LICH Conference October 10, 2013

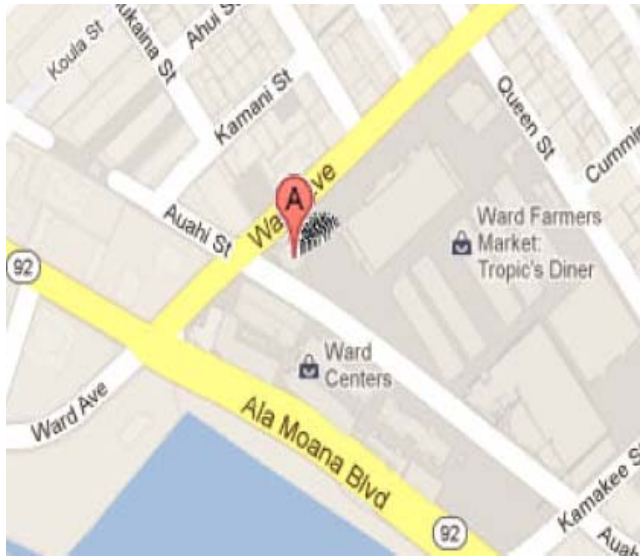
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by President Steve Connolly at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamilee Kempton

PLEASE JOIN US!

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 17th, 2013, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., at Wahoo's, 940 Auahi St.



**2013 Aloha Arborist Association
Membership Application**

Please process my membership with Aloha Arborist Association for calendar year 2013.

Membership: \$10 Student \$25 Government Employee \$50 Individual

\$150 Company \$1,000 Lifetime Member Date: _____

Name: _____

Company: _____

If Company Membership, please designate 3 company representatives for voting purposes*:

Address: _____

_____ Website: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Mobile phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

You may publish this information on the AAA website: Yes No

**Company members may send any of their employees to workshops at AAA member rates*

Please send this completed form to Aloha Arborist Association, 333 Lala Place, Kailua, HI 96734 with a check made payable to Aloha Arborist Association. If you prefer, you can pay online with a credit card at alohaarborist.com/index.php/become-a-member/ and send us this form via email (info@alohaarborist.com).

Mahalo for your support

Acacia Psyllid

The acacia psyllid (*Psylla uncatoides*), first found in Hawaii in 1966, feeds and breeds in the new growth of koa. This psyllid also has become a serious pest of the closely related koaia (*Acacia koaia*). Feeding can result in the accumulation of black sooty mold on koa leaves and phyllodes. By Scot Nelson <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/nelsons/koa/Acacia%20psyllids.htm>



Photo by J.B. Friday. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/jbfriday/6837717333/>

Excerpts from **Biological Control in the Western United States: Accomplishments and ...** (from Google ebook)

http://books.google.com/books?id=lZh0gFJwx0UC&pg=PA91&lpg=PA91&dq=acacia+psyllid+hawaii&source=bl&ots=v1uJCC3vXC&sig=BnoM0VIPy_3jUA5hhUUH-

[Svgyf0&hl=en&sa=X&ei=4ljBUYiJOKTtigLRnIC4DQ&ved=0CDkQ6AEwAg#v=onepage&q=acacia%20psyllid%20hawaii&f=false:](http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&sa=X&ei=4ljBUYiJOKTtigLRnIC4DQ&ved=0CDkQ6AEwAg#v=onepage&q=acacia%20psyllid%20hawaii&f=false)

The acacia psyllid, *Acizzia uncatoides* (Ferris & Klyver) ... feeds primarily on the young terminal growth of *Acacia* and *Albizia* species. Heavy infestations can severely defoliate and kill twigs and branches.

Objective A: The Identification and Introduction of Beneficial Organisms

... In Hawaii, on the other hand, *H. conformis* [*Harmonia conformis*] became successfully established but *D. pumilio* apparently did not (Leeper and Beardsley 1976).

... *H. conformis* consumes mostly the eggs and small nymphs of *A. uncatoides*. It was recovered most readily on *Acacia koaia*, the most heavily infested and seriously damaged of the two affected *Acacia* species. On that host, the predator reduced populations of psyllid eggs and small nymphs by two-thirds to five-sixths ... eliminating the serious twig terminal dieback caused by psyllid damage. (Leeper and Beardsley 1976). Occasional observations since 1976 have shown that *H. conformis* has continued to keep *A. uncatoides* populations below damaging levels (Beardsley unpub. data).

Disease: Gliocladium blight (Pink rot)
Pathogen: <i>Gliocladium vermoeseni</i> (fungus)
Hosts: <i>Archontophoenix cunninghamiana</i> , <i>Chamaedorea elegans</i> , <i>Chamaedorea erumpens</i> , <i>Chamaedorea seifrizzi</i> , other <i>Chamaedorea</i> spp., <i>Chamaerops humilis</i> , <i>Dypsis decaryi</i> , <i>Dypsis lutescens</i> , other <i>Dypsis</i> spp., <i>Howea belmoreana</i> , <i>Howea fosteriana</i> , <i>Phoenix dactylifera</i> , <i>Syagrus romanzoffiana</i> , <i>Washingtonia robusta</i>
Symptoms: Invasive rot of buds, petioles, leaf blades and trunks/stems; dark brown necrotic areas near the base of the stem on most palms; gummy exudates; premature death of fronds; necrotic streaks from base of rachis; chlorotic pinnae; stem girdling; plant death.
Signs: Tremendous number of pink- to salmon-colored spore masses on the surface of diseased plants.
IPM: Minimize plant wounding; use of approved fungicides, especially as a prophylactic during transplanting; trunk surgery followed by fungicides; rogue diseased plants from nursery; minimize water splashing between plants; remove dead leaves from each potted plant (while avoided stem injury) followed by application of a general contact fungicide (maneb or mancozeb) or systemic fungicide (such as thiophanate methyl); use increased plant spacing; promote air movement and decreased relative humidity; irrigate in morning to avoid prolonged periods of foliar wetness; grow crops under cover where needed to avoid excessive rainfall; maintain good pest control program to minimize plant injury due to insect feeding.
Fungicides*: Dithane, Thiophanate methyl. Apply fungicides after removing diseased leaves.

[Back](#) to the Palm Pest and Disease Image Gallery

*Registered for use in Hawaii.

*Named products are not necessarily recommended by the University of Hawaii.

*Always follow the pesticide label instructions.

Pink Rot of Palms – *Gliocladium* blight



Photo: Monica L. Elliott, Professor, Plant Pathology, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS)



Photo: Timothy K. Broschat, Professor, Environmental Horticulture, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS)



Photo: A.J. Downer, University of California

Source:

http://itp.lucidcentral.org/id/palms/symptoms/Gliocladium_Blight_and_Gliocladium_Trunk_Rot.htm, website provided by University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, and the Center for Plant Health Science and Technology (USDA/APHIS/PPQ/CPHST).